AAAS Student E-Poster Competition Guidelines

The AAAS Student E-Poster Competition recognizes the individual efforts of students who are actively working toward an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral-level degree. Multidisciplinary research projects are encouraged. At the time of judging, the individual presenter must give a 3-4 minute oral synopsis of their work and be able to answer follow up questions from a panel of judges in a clear and succinct manner. Posters are also judged at the meeting. Accepted poster abstracts will be available in the 2020 AAAS Annual Meeting online program and the meeting app. E-poster pdfs will be available on the online program during the meeting. Winning undergraduate and graduate students in each category will receive a cash award, a certificate and a one-year AAAS membership that includes a digital subscription to the journal *Science.* In addition, winners' names will be published in *Science.* We encourage presenters to record and post their oral presentations on social media.

Submission Deadline
There is a non-refundable $25 application processing fee to submit an abstract. Your e-poster abstract must be submitted with the application payment **by October 17, 2019, 11:59 pm PST**, but you **do not need to have your e-poster completed to submit an abstract.** "Incomplete" and "pending" status abstracts will not be accepted. Notifications of acceptance or decline will be sent on **October 25, 2019**.

Eligibility Criteria
The competition is open to individuals who are full-time students at the time of submission for work recently performed while enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral degree program. Cash awards and certificates are given only to student presenters. *In order to participate in the Student E-poster Competition, confirmed presenters must pay the meeting registration fee for students OR register as a session aide no later than Friday, November 8, 2019.*

Students are not eligible if they won a competition that included, as an award, presenting at the AAAS Annual Meeting. However, in that case they are invited to submit their posters for the General Poster Session.

Advisers must certify that the research presented on the poster involves only the work of students enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate or doctoral degree program at the time the work was performed. Please alert your adviser to respond to our verification email. **Posters that do not meet these criteria will be disqualified.**

Each applicant can only submit one abstract. Co-authors can appear on the e-poster, but cannot be listed in the abstract submission nor can they participate in the presentation.

Location
Washington State Convention Center Expo Hall
E-Poster Pods
Seattle, WA

Dates and Times
February 15, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
February 16, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

E-posters will be grouped and judged by category, and the schedule will be determined by the number of approved submissions. Presenters will be notified of the exact time and location of their oral presentation by early December 2019.

Categories
Please review all categories to carefully select the one that is most relevant to your research.

- **Brain and Behavior**
  Includes the fields of neuroscience and psychology

- **Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**
  Includes the fields of biochemistry, chemical biology, genomics, proteomics, structural biology

- **Cell Biology**
  Includes the fields of physiology and all areas related to cells

- **Developmental Biology, Genetics, and Immunology**
  Includes the fields of evolution and developmental biology, genetics, host responses, infectious diseases, all areas of immunology

- **Environment and Ecology**
  Includes the fields of agriculture, food science, and renewable resources; geology and geography, as well as atmospheric and hydrospheric sciences

- **Medicine and Public Health**
  Includes dentistry and oral health sciences, medical and pharmaceutical sciences

- **Physical Sciences**
  Includes the fields of astronomy, chemistry, geology, mineralogy, meteorology, and physics

- **Science in Society**
  Includes the history and philosophy of science, general interest in sciences and engineering, science communication, and public engagement

- **Social Sciences**
  Includes the fields of anthropology, economics, education, language and culture, political science, and sociology

- **Technology, Engineering, and Math**
  Includes fields of computer science, information technology, industrial science, and statistics

General Guidelines for Abstract Submission
Presenters can log in and edit their abstract up to the submission deadline. Please carefully follow the instructions as approved abstracts will be used in the online program and the meeting app.

- **Abstract Sections:** All abstracts should be informative and contain the following sections:
    o **Background:** A brief statement of study's objectives

- o **Methods:** A concise statement of methods
- o **Results:** A clear presentation of results, which should be "data rich"
- o **Conclusions:** A closing statement of study's conclusions; do not state "results will be discussed."

- Abstract title must use all capital letters, and is limited to 85 characters (including spaces).

- Abstracts are limited to 2600 characters (including spaces). Please type or paste the abstract as a single text block (indents and line breaks will be removed).

- The poster title, co-authors, citations, footnotes, graphics, and funding acknowledgements are not allowed within the abstract text and will be removed.

- Work must be proofread carefully before submission. Abstracts that show lack of care or quality control as evidenced by grammatical, punctuation, spelling, and typographical errors are reviewed less favorably.

- AAAS staff will not edit abstracts for clarity. However, we will reformat if necessary to conform to standards required for the online program and the meeting app.

- Research proposals are not acceptable.

Meeting Registration
All poster presenters are required to register for the Annual Meeting, either in a paid registration category or as a session aide, by **Friday, November 8, 2019**.

Student Session Aides
The AAAS Annual Meeting is an exciting opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to be immersed in the world of science. Applicants must be enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student to apply to be a session aide. AAAS reserves the right to rescind registration for anyone found not to meet these criteria. Visit: http://meetings.aaas.org/student-session-aides/ for details.

Travel Assistance
Helen Froelich Holt Scholarship for Early-Career Women in Science
The Helen Froelich Holt Scholarship for Early-Career Women in Science provides one grant each year to a female graduate student or recent graduate who has been accepted to present an e-poster at the AAAS Annual Meeting. The winner will receive up to $1,500 for travel (not to exceed actual expenses). In addition, the scholarships will underwrite meeting registration and a one-year AAAS membership. Application information will be sent to eligible individuals after e-posters are accepted for presentation.

Joshua E. Neimark Memorial Travel Assistance Endowment
The Joshua E. Neimark Memorial Travel Assistance Endowment provides a limited number of grants to support travel for graduate students and post-doctoral scholars who present their e-posters at the AAAS Annual Meeting. Application information will be sent to eligible individuals after e-posters are accepted for presentation.

E-Poster Submission
Accepted e-poster presenters will receive instructions on how to prepare and submit the PDF of their e-poster in early December 2019. E-poster judges will be sent a copy of the pdf on **February 5, 2020.** The deadline to submit final pdfs is **February 13, 2020**.

E-Poster Design and Oral Presentation Tips Webinars
Accepted presenters will be notified of complimentary live webinars that will cover how to best design an e-poster and make a great presentation. Webinars will be recorded if you cannot attend the live sessions.

Oral Presentation
Presenters will be assigned a date, time and e-poster presentation pod in the Expo Hall ahead of the meeting, where they will give a three-to-four-minute oral presentation of their poster in front of a panel of judges and meeting attendees. The submitted e-poster will be projected on an LCD screen behind the presenter. A pod proctor will be available to give a signal for when to start and conclude. Presenters are not allowed to distribute handouts during the presentation.

Presentations should include:
- A clear statement of the problem and its importance.
- A summary of key elements of your research and key findings.

Competition and Evaluation
Competitions will be between members of the poster category. Undergraduate and graduate students will present together. However, they will be evaluated per their university level of study. Judges will be allowed to ask questions following the presentations.

Poster evaluation will include:
- Methodology: Methods are appropriate and properly applied.
- Results: Logical, clearly presented, and properly summarized.
- Conclusion: Based on results presented; emphasizes significance and implications of study.
- Presentation: Poster is well-prepared, well-organized, balanced in content, and logically sequenced.
- Importance/originality of research.
- Understanding of subject: Clearly states objectives of the study and relationship to earlier work, demonstrates understanding of the subject and responds effectively.

Judges will receive the abstract and pdf of the poster ahead of the competition. After listening to oral presentations, they will assess each poster using an evaluation form rating the above on a scale of 1-5, with 1 as "below average" and 5 as "outstanding." After all posters from a category have been reviewed, judges will deliberate to select winners and an honorable mention. Winners will be announced on **March 5, 2020.**